UVU UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY™

Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: https://catalog.uvu.edu/

Semester: Spring
Course Prefix: HUM
Course Title: Humanities through the Arts

Year: 2025
Course and Section #: 1010 X06
Credits: 3

Course Description

Studies the media and compositional elements of the various art forms (literature, music, visual arts, theater, film, dance, and architecture), for greater understanding and enjoyment. Teaches how to interpret artistic meaning by analyzing artworks formally as well as in their historical contexts, such as the predominant subject matters and styles of their period. Encourages students to integrate the arts into their daily lives habitually, so that they become lifelong learners and educators.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:
☐ General Education Requirements
☐ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
☐ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
☒ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
☐ Elective Core Requirements in Program
☐ Open Elective
Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Michaela Giesenkirchen Sawyer

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify the major art forms and the materials of which they are constructed.
2. Explain the ways in which artists use the elements of artistic media and composition to communicate to others. Recognize the elements of aesthetic composition and apply this knowledge to interpret the meaning of art.
3. Recognize and interpret the contextual elements of artistic creation. Recognize the time periods in which works of art were created, as well as the style of many major artists. Integrate textual and contextual ways of reading across the arts.
4. Demonstrate a greater command of intellectual and practical skills including written and oral communication, qualitative reasoning (while employing all the senses), and information literacy.

Course Materials and Texts

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy
Your overall grade in this course will come from the online assignments and the roughly 1000 points associated with them. Most units involve readings from the textbook, viewing additional materials in Canvas, an objective quiz, a written response, and an objective test. Twice during the semester, you will have the opportunity to choose an artwork and examine its historical contexts and artistic elements around a theme: Analysis 1 and Analysis 2. The course's creative project comes at the middle of the semester in the form of a self-portrait: Share 1. There are also three extra credit assignments across the semester. They appear in the modules on architecture, music/opera, and cinema. Individual assignments can be viewed in detail on in the Assignments section on canvas.

The grading criteria for non-quiz assignments are laid out in rubrics.

The four lowest grades on homework assignments will be dropped. This rule does NOT apply to analysis papers and sharae assignments. In exchange, there are in principle no extensions on homework assignments, but students can ask for ONE extension ahead of the deadline for an analysis paper or a share assignment.

Final grades will be allocated by matching the final summary percentage with the following chart:
94-100 = A; 90-93.9= A-; 87-89.9= B+; 83-86.9=B; 80-82.9 = B-; 77-79.9 = C+; 73-76.9 = C; 70-72.9= C-; 67-69.9= D+; 63-66.9= D; 60-62.9= D-; 0-59.9= E

Late Work:
Analysis papers and "Share" assignments are the only assignments that, if absolutely necessary, you can request an extension on. You will have to ask for an extension ahead of time to get one, and you can only get one on those four assignments, so choose your occasion wisely. Other homework is not accepted late; however, FOUR homework assignments (not analyses papers or share assignments) are forgiven. See Assignments (https://uvu.instructure.com/courses/541596/assignments) . It is of course best to preserve the four-drop policy for improving your grade rather than for skipping assignments.
If you encounter a sustained difficulty, such as a prolonged illness or a hospitalization, please do inform your instructor as soon as possible so that special accommodations can be made.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments
The majority of readings will use chapters from the course text that align with the lectures below.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion
Lesson 1.1: Introduce Yourself
Lesson 2.1: Introduction- Response: Form & Context

Lesson 3.1: 2-D Art- Response: Baroque Thesis
Lesson 4.1 3-D Art
Lesson 4.2 Response: David vs. David
Lesson 5.1 Architecture- Response: Frank Gehry
Lesson 6.1 Literature- Response: Owen's Poetry
Response: Imagery & Symbolism
Lesson 7.1: Theater- Response: Ariel Design
Lesson 8.1: Music and Opera- Response: Hip Hop Context
Response: Favorite Classical Pieces
Lesson 9.1: Dance- Response
Lesson 10.1: Cinema- Response: The Godfather

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI
The Department of Philosophy and Humanities recognizes that Artificial Intelligence
and Natural Language Processing Tools are largely accessible to students and will be
used by many in higher education for the foreseeable future. However, the skills taught
in the humanities are unique. We aim to educate students in the careful reading of
texts, the development of rigorous writing skills, the analysis and use of arguments,
and to foster the thoughtful application of each of these skills in students' personal and
social development. Research has not yet determined what bearing the use of AI tools
in the classroom will have upon the successful acquisition of these skills.
Therefore, at this time, online learning support platforms (like ChatGPT or Google
Bard) may not be used for course assignments in our department except as explicitly
authorized by the instructor. Any assignment or content composed by any resource other than the
student (whether human or digital) must be attributed to the source
through proper citation. Unacknowledged use of online learning support platforms is a
form of scholastic dishonesty and will be treated as such.
Some of our language has been adapted from the **University of Minnesota
(https://provost.umn.edu/chatgpt-syllabus-statements)**

Using Remote Testing Software
☐ This course does not use remote testing software.

☒ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing
locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of
remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may
require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic
honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or
immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the
student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative
testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in UVU Policy 541: *Student Code of Conduct*.

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a specially dedicated space for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.